

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ORM-02 /072 R

DRAFTED BY USOAS:RBMOON:JD

APPROVED BY USOAS:REWHITE

ARA/BC/C:RDRISCOLL (DRAFT)

ARA:GLISTER (DRAFT)

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 052243

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, CI

SUBJECT: CHILE'S PROPOSED PROCEDURAL REFORMS FOR THE
IA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

REF: STATE 297303

1. CHILE'S OAS AMBASSADOR TRUCCO HELD PRIVATE MEETING
AT HIS HOME MARCH 2 TO OBTAIN PRELIMINARY REACTIONS
FROM BRAZILIAN, ECUADOREAN, GUATEMALAN AND U.S. OAS
DELS TO CHILEAN PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE REFORM OF IAHR
PROCEDURES AS JUNE OASGA AGENDA ITEM. LED BY ECUADOREAN
AND GUATEMALAN AMBASSADORS, TRUCCO'S GUESTS WERE UNANIMOUS
IN RECOMMENDING THAT CHILE NOT PROCEED WITH THIS INITIA-
TIVE. ECUADOR'S GALO LEORO MADE FORTHRIGHT COMMENT THAT
CHILE WAS MISJUDGING SITUATION BADLY IF IT THOUGHT
PRESENT HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN CHILE WOULD NOT
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COLOR REACTION OF OTHER MEMBERS TO ITS REFORM PROPOSALS.

OTHER DELS PRESENT EXPRESSED VIEW THAT IT WAS IN INTEREST OF CHILE AND OF OAS GENERALLY NOT TO COMPLICATE GA'S CONSIDERATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES WITH PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS BUT RATHER TO HOPE ASSEMBLY COULD QTE GET THROUGH UNQTE HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS WITH FEWEST COMPLI-CATIONS POSSIBLE. TRUCCO RESPONDED THAT HE WOULD REPORT THESE VIEWS TO HIS GOVERNMENT.

2. CHILE'S PROPOSED REFORMS OF IAHRC PROCEDURE HAVE NOT YET BEEN FORMALLY PRESENTED TO OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION OR FOR INCLUSION ON OASGA AGENDA. THEY HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN CIRCULATED INFORMALLY BY MEMORANDUM. THEY ARE SIMILAR TO CHANGES CHILE RECOM-MENDED LAST YEAR IN UNHRC REGULATIONS AND APPEAR AIMED PRINCIPALLY AT STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF INVESTIGATED STATES IN DETERMINING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH AN IAHRC INVESTIGATORY TEAM WOULD OPERATE. AT THE SAME TIME, THEY WOULD TEND TO MAKE IAHRC DECISIONS MORE BINDING ON GOVERNMENTS THAN AT PRESENT. SUBSTANCE OF CHILEAN PROPOSAL, HOWEVER, APPEARS LESS IMPORTANT THAN INTENT OF GOC IN PUTTING THEM FORWARD AT THIS TIME. WE SEE CHILEAN INITIATIVE AS EFFORT TO RAISE DUST ABOUT THE COMMITTEE'S PROCEDURES AT A TIME WHEN A CRITICAL REPORT IS EXPECTED TO EMERGE FROM IT. FOR THIS REASON, WE ARE OPPOSED TO CHILE'S INITIATIVE, AND WE HOPE YESTERDAY'S MEETING WILL EFFECTIVELY DERAIL IT. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, MEETING AGENDA, COMMITTEES, REORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE052243
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RBMOON:JD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760083-0029
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760394/aaaadffn.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 297303
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2004 by coburnhl>; APPROVED <26 OCT 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHILE'S PROPOSED PROCEDURAL REFORMS FOR THE IA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, PORG, CI, XM, OAS
To: SANTIAGO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006